

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action dated January 5, 2007, Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102. Claims 8-17 were previously withdrawn. In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 and canceled claim 3. In view of the amendments and for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/187265 to Mori et al. ("Mori"). Amended claim 1, the sole independent claim of the pending claims, recites a deposition mask that forms a continuous organic layer common to a plurality of organic light emitting devices of a display unit that has a matrix configuration constructed by a plurality of lines and columns associated with the organic light emitting devices on a substrate by deposition, comprising a body part having one or more stripe-shaped openings to form a continuous organic layer common to at least two lines of the matrix configuration; and one or more protrusions that are provided on the body part wherein the protrusions partly protrude inside the one or more stripe-shaped openings and wherein the protrusions are in a shape selected from the group consisting of a semicircle, a semiellipse, and a polygon. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in the specification at page 12, lines 11-13 and FIGS. 18-21.

Applicants respectfully submit that Mori fails to disclose or suggest each element of independent claim 1, as amended. For example, Mori fails to disclose or suggest a deposition mask comprising one or more protrusions which are in a shape selected from the group consisting of a semicircle, a semiellipse, and a polygon. The Patent Office alleges that Mori recites this element in FIG. 2. However, FIG. 2 displays a general configuration of the display area after formation of the organic layers on the anode electrodes. Therefore, FIG. 2 illustrates the display area after the mask is used and without the mask connected to the electroluminescent device. Mori readily discloses the mask as element 200 throughout the specification yet makes no reference to the mask 200 in describing FIG. 2. Moreover, while FIG. 2 does note elements such as the ribs 14; organic layers 11G, 11B and 11R; anode electrode 10 and cathode electrode 12, it never notes the mask 200. Even when mask 200 is indeed described in Mori, no reference is made to the shape of its openings 200h. See, Mori, [0063-0070, 0076-0078, 0082, 0087, 0088,

0090, 0091, 0093, 0094, 0096, 0097, 0102-0116], and FIGS. 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21 and 22.

Applicants have discovered that by shaping the protrusion so as not to block the opening of the insulating film, which is a light emitting region, the contact part between the auxiliary electrode and second electrode can be provided without preventing improvement of the aperture ratio. See, specification, page 12, lines 7-10. Further, the dimensions or shape of the protrusions are determined according to variables such as, for example, plate thickness of the deposition mask, position relation with the light emitting region and dimensions of the contact part between the auxiliary electrode and the second electrode. See, specification, page 12, lines 13-16. Additionally, by using similar shaped protrusions across multiple openings along the deposition mask, the openings can be aligned such that the notches of each organic layer are aligned to selectively expose the auxiliary electrode for contact with the second electrode. See, specification, FIG. 23.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the anticipation rejection of claims 1-7 be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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